CDXC
CHILTERN DX CLUB
The UK DX Foundation

Newsletter

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CDXC OFFICERS 1993/1994

PRESIDENT:	**G6LX**	Ron Glaisher	Tel 081 654 1406
		279 Addiscombe Rd., Croydon, CR0 7HY	
CHAIRMAN:	**G3WGV**	John Linford	Tel 0734 733 745
		Canberra Lodge, Heath Ride, Finchampstead, Wokingham, RG11 3QT	
VICE CHAIRMAN:	**G3VKW**	Keith Evans,	Tel 0444 412 414
		Littlefield House, Bolney Road, Ansty, Haywards Heath, RH17 5AW	
VICE CHAIRMAN:	**G3NUG**	Neville Cheadle	Tel 0442 629 29
		Further Felden, Longcroft Lane, Felden, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 0BN	
SECRETARY:	**G0HXN**	David Mann	Tel 0344 761 937
		106 South Meadow, Crowthorne, Berks, RG11 7HP	
TREASURER:	**G4PFF**	Mike Potter	Tel 0767 677 792
		38 West Street, Great Gransden, Sandy, Beds, SG19 3AU	
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	**G3PMR**	Alan Jubb	Tel 0767 677 913
		30 West Street, Great Gransden, Sandy, Beds, SG19 3AU	
AWARDS MANAGER:	**G4DYO**	Brendan McCartney	Tel 0734 732 393
		123 Reading Road, Finchampstead, Wokingham, RG11 4RD	
CONTEST COORDINATOR:	**G4WVX**	Bruce Gilson	Tel 0628 664 415
		3A Lincoln Hatch Lane, Burnham, Slough, SL1 7HA	

DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER ISSUE: *AUGUST 7th*

EDITORIAL *(Alan Jubb, G3PMR)*

Hello from Great Gransden, that hot-bed of DXing! In my first News Letter as Editor, I'd like to start by thanking Andrew, G0HSD, for all the hard work he's put in over the last few years as Editor, in producing the Newsletter and in raising its standard and size. I'd also like to wish Dave, G0HXN, every success in his new position as Secretary, which he's inherited from me - I know Dave is in for a lot of hard work!

In addition to all the usual articles on member's DX activities, I intend also to include items of DX information, and have started in this issue by including a *DXCC UPDATE* by Bren, G4DYO, and an *IOTA UPDATE*, which I have compiled from information published in DX News Sheet. Also, Bren has kindly supplied a copy of his *DX Calendar*. Of course, just what is published will depend upon what data I can get access to. Another change that I intend to make is to give more time between publication of the News Letter and the deadline for articles for the next News Letter. *In fact, I propose to set the deadline for every News Letter as the 7th of the month preceding the month of publication.* So, no excuses for not knowing when the deadline is! Of course, if I don't get enough articles, the publication date will slip, and the gap to the next deadline will close, and we'll be back where we started. I should also take this opportunity of stating that items published in this news letter do not necessarily reflect

my personal views, nor the views of the Committee.

Looking back at the last 12 months, there has been lots of activity by CDXC members, with some notable achievements. Major DXpeditions to KH5/KH5K and AH1A included CDXC members G0LMX and G4LJF, whilst CDXC members G3SXW, G3TXF, accompanied by G4FAM aired 3DA0 in their usual exemplary way. P29DX made a round the world trip, activating a number of rarish spots, whilst NFD was won by a team with CDXC members G3XTT/G3WGV as the main ops. Andrew, G0HSD has just completed a trip to Arctic Russian Islands, and, less obviously, we have people like Bren, G4DYO, and Roger, G3KMA, working very hard to promote various aspects of UK DXing. Steve, GW4BLE gained no 1 position in Europe in the 1992 WPX SSB contest, whilst the late G3FXB, operating GB8FX was 1st in Europe, in the single op, all band category of the CW WPX contest. Finally, the efforts of Hilary, G4JKS where recognised by HRT, when she was awarded ***'HRT Amateur of the Year'***. I'm sure their are many other achievements over the last year by members that I've missed - apologies to them. We can and should be proud of the achievements of our members - and perhaps these achievements will stimulate us all to strive for something in the current CDXC year, be it an improvement in our personal operating standards, improving our stations, or being involved, on a wider level, in promoting the UK HF DX scene, and Amateur Radio.

On the current DX scene, there's still plenty of activity on the bands, in spite of the predictable down turn in propagation. 5X has suddenly become less rare, 9M0S has been very active from Spratly, a DXpedition to 5A is imminent (current?), and the possibility of an operation from A5 is still there, and CDXC members G3WGV an P29DX will be participating in a DXpedition to Mellish Reef in September, so there's plenty to look forward to!

For newer members, if you've ever wondered where the village depicted on the CDXC QSL card is located, I can tell you that the village is Chedington, a tiny hamlet about 7 miles SE of Crewkerne, in Somerset. Chedington is just over the border in Dorset, close to the BBC transmitting station at Rampisham. (Tnx G3NOF).

On a personal note, I'm pleased to be able to report that I'm now in gainful employment again, which is keeping the XYL and bank manager happy! I don't need to move QTH, as the new job is local, so dreams of a better amateur radio QTH have been shelved! (at least for the time being) However, I am now in the process of planning an upgrade to my station, starting with the antenna department (which the XYL is *not* so keen on!). I won't be able to put up something to take me into the big league, but, at least, I should be able to move my signal out of the "pip-squeak" category!!

Well, that's all for this time; please keep items for publication rolling in!

Alan, G3PMR

CHAIRMAN'S BIT
John Linford, G3WGV

As I am writing this, the Solar Flux Index has dropped right down to 82, yet there is a pile of unusual stuff to work on 28MHz! Yes, it's the summer Sporadic Es season again and I have been amazed at the number of fairly local countries that I didn't have until this week on 10m. What a pity that there was no Es around for NFD last weekend - even with a 5 element yagi up at the regulation 20m on top of the highest hill for miles around it was a real struggle.

I wonder how many CDXC members were involved in NFD this year? Certainly I know of two stations that were operated entirely by CDXC members: The CDXC's own station G4DQW and the Reading and District ARC's entry operated by G3XTT and myself. An absolutely marvellous weekend WX-wise but not too much to shout about on the conditions front. Do let the committee know if you were active in NFD and how you got on. Maybe we could have a list in a future newsletter.

Many thanks to those of you who came to the ARM held recently at my house. Quite a few members travelled a considerable distance to be there, but, of course, as always there were a lot of really local members who didn't show. How about making a really serious attempt at getting to this, the most important of all the CDXC's meetings next year?

As I am sure many of you know, I am once again gainfully employed (by someone else that is!). I am working long hours as a Business Development Manager for Racal, and I have to say it does seem to have curtailed operating more than somewhat! When I do get on, what amazes me is the amount of DX activity around. Each year I restart my DXCC records just for fun. A group of us have an informal competition to see who can work the most band/country slots in a single year on CW, and I find it really keeps the interest going having the excuse to work 'em all again each year.

Anyway, the point is that despite my much lower activity, I have already worked well over 200 countries in 1993. Last year in the entire year I only managed 230, so it looks like that record is going to be beaten in 93. All this when the SFI is routinely under 100 too. Long may it continue!

The Barbecue season is on us again, with both Derek, G4BLX, and Herb, G0/OZ7SM offering their hospitality. Unfortunately I won't be able to be at Derek's but I certainly do look forward to meeting a lot of you at Herb's place on the 26th June.

Finally, as you may have heard by now, I am off on the forthcoming DXpedition to Mellish Reef, VK9M. There are two CDXC members, the other being Steve P29DX/G4JVG, and there is a certain amount of truth in the rumour that the only reason he asked me is because they needed a CW operator!! All in all I shall be away from the UK for a month, so as you can imagine I have totally blown my entire year's holiday entitlement on Mellish and have no spare days for any other sort of holiday at all. I know it will be worth it!

I'll leave the UK on about 12th September, en route to Brisbane, and the QTH of Bill, VK4CRR who is another of the operators. After a couple of days getting used to "down under" time we will drive up the Queensland coast to Bundaberg where we meet up with our transport for the next stage: a 63 foot twin masted yacht which no doubt will test the sea-legs of this true Brit land lubber!

Depending on the WX (please, let it be calm!), we should take about 4 days to get to VK9M, arriving about September 18th or 19th. The plan is then to festoon this tiny reef with as many antennas as we can, and get up to five HF stations operational. Hopefully at least two of these will be running kW levels of power, so we should get good signals into EU with half decent conditions.

Operations will last until about 28th September, and then we start the long journey back, with landfall in G-land for WGV around 7th October. This will be my first ever visit to Australasia, let alone the

Coral Sea area, so needless to say I am looking forward to it immensely. Look forward to working you all from VK9M!

That's about it for this edition, see you on the bands!

73, John, G3WGV.

JOTTINGS BY THE SECRETARY
(Dave Mann, G0HXN)

Hi all, well this is my first jottings since taking over as Secretary from Alan, and several things spring to mind as priorities for the Club. Firstly we must all strive to give the CDXC a higher profile where DXing is concerned. There have been several very notable achievements by some of our members over the last years, and apart from brief mentions in RadCom these have gone virtually unnoticed by the vast majority of the amateur fraternity in the UK.

What has gone has gone, and my objective now is to give as much advertising as possible for the Mellish Reef DXpedition in September, our representatives being John, G3WGV, our Chairman, and Steve, G4JVG/P29DX. Although it will probably be impossible to get Steve over here for publicity, we have John, who is willing to give the necessary briefings to the press. At the moment only local newspapers have taken up the story, but two radio interviews are being set up,maybe the RSGB could be encouraged to take part, especially where fund raising is concerned. Mellish Reef must now stand well up on the "European Wanted List", I know its well up on mine, (perhaps I shall even manage to work it). I gather propogation from Mellish is similar to that of Papua New Guinea, and September time is a good opportunity to make use of the peak of propogation at the equinox even though we are already on the downward slope of the sunspot cycle

.

Look out for details of Callsigns, frequencies and QSL details in the DXNS. My second pont is the HF Convention in October at Windsor which is rapidly approaching, and we are committed to several jobs at the Convention including

1. Transport of International Visitors: All volunteers to Henry G3GIQ, or myself as I will be involved with them on the day.

2. Special Event Station GB1OTA: Volunteers to help with the station at the convention to Neville, G3NUG. Anyone wishing to use the call from their own QTH please contact Alan G3PMR.

3. Signposting and internal communications, once again any input to Alan G3PMR

The Convention was great success last year, and our continued participation must be up to a standard worthy in what is becoming a major Internation event, so no matter how small, any help WILL be appreciated, please do not leave everything to a small minority, GET INVOLVED after all it's your club.

I would like to thank Ray G0LRH one of our few East Anglian representatives for his hospitality recently, and perhaps those of us who travel the UK frequently could make more use of the "eyeball", its nice toput a face to a voice. (Well sometimes !!).

Well folks that the end of my first jottings, hopefully by the next edition I shall have much more input. Messages can be left for me on the Cluster, or I am QTHR for the more abusive messages HI!

73 and Gd DX. Dave,G0HXN

TREASURER's REPORT

Mike Potter, G4PFF

Following the recent A R M, I have been elected to act as your Treasurer. First, may I thank Ron G6LX for his past services as Treasurer and wish him a successful year as President.

Before you all rush to send me your subs renewals allow me to introduce myself. Licensed in 1981 as G8ZQO, the A licence came the following year. However for a long time before then I was active as an SWL with a wide range of receivers, mainly surplus such as 1155, BC348, CR100 etc. My first serious RX was a rather bent Hallicrafters S38 rescued from a dustbin (Cost 2 shillings to the son of the ex owner in case he thought it was worth keeping, such is the price of silence.) The S38 eventually died and was sold to G3MWM (Now PY5ZBU). Eventually I managed to obtain an AR88D and almost a hernia, certainly not a portable RX ! Although DX was always the objective some time was spent on VHF 2m and 70cm using some now well obsolete converters. Who remembers the TW Nuvistor range ?

As far as Dxpeditions are concerned the best I can offer is a trip to Isle of Lundy in the late 50's for a Top Band contest. Enough reminiscing, now back to the 90's. Present activities are centred on HF with 2m used for Cluster (Thanks to all the sysops and DX spotters- you've helped my countries worked.)

I am limited like so many others for space to put up a really major antenna but using patience and a combination of an HQ1 Mini-beam and a G5RV we are getting there.

I hope to meet as many of you as possible at the HF Convention and if you have any queries about your membership please give me a call either on the landline to 0767 677 792 or leave a message on PacketCluster @ GB7BPQ (NMCLUS) or via Packet to GB7DDX (CAMBOX).

For those wondering were you have seen my address before it is almost the same as G3PMR. We are immediate neighbours and no, there are no problems with QRM *(well, not many! Ed)* except if you call Alan on the landline I may come through on his phone but don't ask for a QSL.

Finally, please let us have your renewal subscriptions as soon as possible. When sending cheques it helps if you can put your callsign and address on the back.

Please send subscription renewals (£10.00) to:-

Mike Potter,
38 West St.,
Gt. Gransden,
Sandy,
Bedfordshire, SG19 3AU

73, Mike, G4PFF

A TEST OF ENTHUSIASM? Why did *YOU* join the Chiltern DX Club? Are *YOU* truly interested in reaching the summit in HF DXing? Do you want to encourage other amateurs to share the pleasures of HF DXing? Unfortunately the UK's national society provides very poor coverage of HF DXing matters in its journal so many DXers complain that there is no effective national forum for discussions of an HF DX nature - or is there? How about the Chiltern DX Club Newsletter? I am sure the editor would welcome with open arms any input, especially from the more experienced members *(Yes please! - Ed)*. Unfortunately very few members bother to put pen to paper and support their club journal so maybe it is time to change the rules for membership? How about candidates for

membership being required to submit a short article on DXing for the Newsletter? I firmly believe that members should demonstrate that they are willing to put back into the hobby a little of what they get out. What do others think?

Brendan McCartney, G4DYO

CONTEST CORNER

CDXC entered NFD this year using the call G4DQW/P. A full write up will follow.

Would anyone who would like to operate at G3OZF's QTH in a 'Headquarters' station during the IARU HF Championship 1200Z - 1200Z on 10/11 July pleasecontact me either on Cluster or by phone/Fax. This operation will probably use a GBnHQ style of call sign.

If anyone has any suggestions for contests for which CDXC should make an entry would they please get in touch too.

Tel 0628 664 415 (Home)
0628 660 915 (FAX)
0831 135 604 (Mobile)

Bruce Gilson, G4WVX

SOFTWARE

The latest version of the **G3WGV LOG** software is V3.10. Any registered user who is on support may get a copy from me by sending a blank formatted disk, and a return addressed stamped mailer. Any registered user who is no longer on support may renew support for one year by sending me a cheque (payable to Chiltern DX Club) for £10.00.

The latest version of **SHACKLOG** is V3.22. Registered users of V3 may obtain a copy by sending me a blank formatted disk, and a return addressed stamped mailer.

Alan, G3PMR

RSGB International HF & IOTA Convention

Reminder The 1993 IHFC will be held on 8th/9th/10th October at the Beaumont Conference Centre, Windsor. Remember that advance registration for both full days (Saturday & Sunday) is cheaper than registering on the day.

Help is still wanted with various items for the convention.

Transport of Versatower: If anyone has a Landrover style of vehicle, and can be available to collect a trailer mounted tower from the West Midlands on 8th or 11th October, please contact Neville G3NUG.

Transport of Overseas Visitors: Will all those willing to help with collection of overseas visitors from Heathrow please contact either Henry G3GIQ, or Dave, G0HXN.

Accommodation for Overseas Visitors: Will anyone who can offer accommodation to one or more visitors before or after the convention, for one or more nights, please contact Alan, G3PMR.

Stewards: Stewards are wanted who will spend half a day on the Saturday or Sunday as official points of contact to help with enquiries, problems, etc. Volunteers please to G3PMR.

Video: The organizing committee is keen to video some of the lectures. Would anyone who is prepared to loan suitable equipment, and who can produce semi professional results, please contact G3PMR.

Also, anyone who can advise on where to borrow/hire projection TV equipment, please contact G3PMR.

DXCC UPDATE *G4DYO, Editor of DX News Sheet*

Hardly a week goes by without one of the Deserving telephoning or writing in with a query about DXCC counters. "Since when did Penguin Island count?"... "I can only find 326 Current Countries in my database; what am I missing?", "What's the score on P5?", etc, etc.

The last few years have seen a significant number of changes to the DXCC List and even the keenest DXer misses the odd bit of news with the result that his List gets out of date. The real answer is to obtain a new List from ARRL every year - the couple of greenstamps are well spent!

To assist those members whose DXCC Lists are dog-eared and difficult to read from all the corrections, here is a run down on changes which have occurred to the Countries List in the last five years. As of 1 January, 1986 there were 318 Current DXCC Countries; the last addition was P4 Aruba. Now read on:

Add Western Sahara S0	submit cards wef 1 June, 1988	Total 319
Add M-V Island, 4J1	submit cards wef 1 Mar 1989	Total 320
Add Rotuma Island 3D2	submit cards wef 1 Mar 1989	Total 321
Add Conway Reef 3D2	submit cards wef 1 Mar 1990	Total 322
Add Banaba Island T33	submit cards wef 1 Mar 1990	Total 323
Add Walvis Bay ZS9	submit cards wef 1 June 1990	Total 324
Delete E Germany Y2-Y9		Total 323
Delete PDR of Yemen 4W		Total 322
Delete Yemen Arab Republic 7O		Total 321
Add Republic of Yemen 7O	submit cards wef 1 Mar 1991	Total 322
Add Penguin Islands ZS1	submit cards wef 1 Sep 1991	Total 323
Add Croatia 9A	submit cards wef 1 Jan 1993	Total 324
Add Slovenia S5	submit cards wef 1 Jan 1993	Total 325
Add Bosnia-Herc. 4N4/T9	submit cards wef 1 Jan 1993	Total 326
Delete Czechoslovakia OK		Total 325
Add Czech Republic OK	submit cards wef 1 June 1993	Total 326
Add Slovak Republic OM	submit cards wef 1 June 1993	Total 327
Add Macedonia 4N5	submit cards wef 1 June 1993	Total 328
Delete Abu Ail		Total 327

Notes: 1. The prefix for the Current Country of Yemen is 4W and not 7O. The Yemen Government was requested by ITU to release either 7O or 4W and it released 7O.
2. The DXCC Desk ceased to accept 4N4 QSLs for Bosnia credit wef 12 May 1993. Thereafter DXCC credit can only be given for T9 callsigns.
3. The above list is in chronological order of decisions taken but there were several retroactive decisions, eg Rotuma and Banaba were added wef 15 November, 1945. Abu Ail was deleted wef 31 March. 1991.

As of 1st June, 1993 there were 327 Current and 56 Deleted Countries. To qualify for Honor Roll, confirmed contacts are required with 318 Current Countries, ie Honor Roll consists of those DXCC members with current scores in the top ten numerical listings. If you have 383 all-time countries confirmed you probably do not need to ask "What is DX"!!!

The DXAC is currently considering the status of Eritrea and this will probably be added shortly. The status of Pratas Island is also being considered, but a decision on this may be some way off.

North Korea, P5 is "in the wings". It will automatically be added to the List as soon as a legitimate operation takes place. The P5RS7 operation by Romeo Stepanenko and friends is being investigated by the ARRL and may well result in P5 being added.

IOTA UPDATE *Alan Jubb, G3PMR*

The following table lists the new IOTA references which have been issued since the publication of the March 1993 IOTA Directory: (Tnx, DXNS)

IOTA REF	PREFIX	ISLAND/GROUP	PAGE
AF-066	C9	MAPUTO/GAZA DISTRICT group	22
AS-103	BV7	P'ENG-HU (PESCADORES) IS	27
NA-181	VE7	ESTEVAN group	30
NA-182	VE8	NWT (INUVIK REGION) EAST group	30
NA-183	XE3	GUERRERO STATE group	31
OC-179	H4	DUFF IS	38
OC-180	V63	NGULU ATOLL	35
OC-181	P2	WITU IS	37
OC-182	VR6	DUCIE IS	38
OC-183	VK6	WESTERN AUSTRALIA STATE (SW COAST) CENTRE group	34
OC-184	V85	BRUNEI'S coastal islands	35
OC-185	VK8	N. TERRITORY (ARAFURA SEA COAST) EAST group	34
OC-186	YB2	KARIMUNJAWA IS	36
SA-063	YV8	MONAGAS/DELTA AMACURO STATE group	41

SKEDS with THAILAND (HS)

Tony Waltham, HS0/G4UAV has written to say that CDXC members may arrange skeds with him via his two dial-up BBSs. Details are as follows:

010 662 240 3671 (Wildcat!) BBS. 14.4k bps modem.
010 662 240 3672 2400 bps modem.

Tony says that both modems can negotiate down to 1200 bps.

Tony's home address is 29/2 Soi Torsak, Sukhumvit Soi 49, Bangkok 10110, Thailand, and may also be contacted at his work QTH (Bangkok Post) on the following numbers:

Tel: 0662 240 3700
FAX 0662 240 3666

So, no excuses for not filling those band/country slots! Tony is quite active on SSB - I'm not sure whether he works CW or data modes.

Alan, G3PMR

DX CALENDAR *(Tnx, DXNS)*

ANY TIME?	TZ by F1JDG
SOON??	XV2A
Til early Jul	5Z4TT by SP5TT
Til Jul	D2BG
Til Jul 4	3X0HNU
NOW	ZS8MI
ANY TIME	XU6WV by VS6WV
Til Jul 28	4U1VIC (WB4FNH)
Til Aug	ZD8DEZ
Til Aug	XV7TH by SM7NFB
Til late Aug	PA3CXC/ST0
Til Oct	D2EL
Til Dec	Antarc CE9OH
Til Dec	5Z4JD by F2JD
Til Dec	EL2YD by F6FYD
Til Jan 94	ZD8VJ by G4ZVJ
Til Mar 94	AN-017 FT5YE
Til Apr 94	S Geo VP8CKB
Til mid-94	JW5NM
Til Aug 94	9X5AB by DF3ZJ
Til Aug 95	ET3JR by FD1PJQ
Jun 26-Jul 5?	BV9P Pratas Is?
Jun 27-??	E3 by JA/DL/W
Jun/Jul??	Chang I E22DX
Jul 1-5	EU-089 CU9C
Jul 3-4	YV SSB Contest
Jul 4	EU-001 SV5/N6MZ
Jul 4-11	Zone 2 by YLs
Jul 10-11	IARU Contest
Jul 17-18	SEANET CW Contest
Jul 17-18	HK DX Contest
Jul 24-25	IOTA Contest
Jul 24-25	YV CW Contest
Aug?	3V by Romeo etc
Aug 7-8	YO DX Contest
Aug 14-15	WAE CW Contest
Sep 4-5	All Asian SSB Ctst
Sep 5	LZ DX CW Contest
Sep 11-12	WAE SSB Contest
Sep 18-19	Scandinav. CW Ctst
Sep 4-5	All Asian SSB Ctst
Sep 5	LZ DX CW Contest
Sep 11-12	WAE SSB Contest
Sep 18-19	Scandinav. CW Ctst
Sep 25-26	Scandinav. SSB Ctst
Sep 25-26	CQWW RTTY Contest
Oct	VU Lacc/And Is?
Oct 3	RSGB 21/28 MHz Ctst
Oct 8-10	RSGB HF CONVENTION
Oct 1-15	7O8UA??
Nov 13-14	WAE RTTY Ctst
Nov 19-21	SEANET Conv. Dhaka
Jan/Feb	SS P & P Rocks
Jun 94	TZ6VV QRV again

Peter 1st - HELP Wanted

Remember the substantial help we (CDXC) gave the VP8SSI team during their passage through the UK en route to South Shetlands?, and the resulting "listening for G stations only" activity of the DXpedition? Well, here's our opportunity to do it again for the Peter 1st team.

The team arrives in the UK during the week of 17 January 1994. 10 ops will require accomodation and transportation from Heathrow/Gatwick to Brize Norton. We need rock-solid support for transport and rock-sèlid support for FREE accomodation for team members.

Bren, G4DYO, is coordinating this effort; if you can help with transportation and/or accommodation. please let Bren know ASAP.

WHAT's IN A NAME (AGAIN!!)

(No, we're not re-opening the club name debate. This is a piece submitted by Dave Lawley, G4BUO - please let Dave have your thoughts, Ed)

The phrasing of the IOTA Contest rules would be easier if we had a good definition of the G* countries. Does anybody have a good plain-language term to define those countries which (before the advent of novice prefixes and M0RSE) we amateurs could refer to as 'The countries whose prefix starts with G'?

'The UK' won't do, because the Channel Islands and Isle of Man aren't part of the Kingdom, although I believe the inhabitants of some of the islands have an allegiance to our Monarch. 'Great Britain' won't do because it excludes GI,while 'The British Isles' is too all-embracing, because it includes EI.

Incidentally, I understand the island of Ireland is also known as Little Britain but the term is, perhaps understandably, not widely used. 'Britain' appears simply to be a synonym for Great Britain.

The question is not simply of academic interest. It gives problems with the phrasing of award and contest rules, and at present there are also references to 'overseas', which are problematic if we can't decide what 'home' is!

Dave Lawley, G4BUO

On behalf of the CDXC Committee, I'd like to welcome the following new members to CDXC:

G3NBC	Ken Hurrell	Shaftesbury
G3USX	Michael Robertson	Woking
G0LOG	Barry Boxen	Cheadle Hulme
HS0/G4UAV	Tony Waltham	Bangkok
G4IPR	Tony Jones	Enfield
G4TNB	Peter Dollery	Little Baddow
G3GHS	Geoff Holland	St. Austell
G3CAQ	Bill Moorwood	Wolverhampton
GW3CBA	Jack Kellaway	Barry
G3DPX	Colin Pollard	Sidmouth

I hope that you will all enjoy being members of CDXC,that you get lots out of the club, and that you are able to put something back, too!

Good DXing. 73 de ***Dave, G0HXN***, Secretary.

IS DXING REALLY FUN? *Brendan McCartney, G4DYO*

The word "fun" can mean many things, depending on a) which dictionary is consulted and b) one's own interpretation of the word. One dictionary defines it as: "Something done for pleasure", another as "Sport, amusement".

Often when the going gets hot in a DX pile-up we hear one of the junior-ops complain that *"amateur radio should be fun; this isn't"*. Maybe it's not fun to him, but other, more experienced DXers, are thoroughly enjoying themselves. It is more galling when the complaint is uttered by a member of CDXC - which was originally intended to be the elite of UK HF DXing, ie people who supposedly derive enormous enjoyment from operating on DX bands, joining pile-ups, QSLing everything in sight, getting the best out of their stations, chasing major awards, experimenting with antennas, fixing skeds at any hour, in fact treating the hobby with a degree of seriousness which would bring on an attack of the vapours for "Mr Average Ham". To put it in a nut shell - those who eat, drink and sleep DXing. The Club has opened up somewhat and welcomed a number of DXers on the bottom rungs of the DXCC ladder to the fold; we must encourage them during their apprenticeship, but not lose sight of the fact that CDXC is a club for serious DX operators. If they do not understand us, maybe they joined the wrong club?

HF DXing, like any sport, is highly competitive and the participants who take it seriously will succeed, whilst those who treat it lightly will fall by the wayside. Think of any major sport and leading personalities immediately spring to mind. There is no doubt that those people would claim to pursue their chosen sports for "fun", but the amount of work they put into their chosen pastimes is, to say the least, daunting for the average person. But do we criticise them for pursuing those pastimes which give them and us so much pleasure? Do the headlines blare *"Why can't Mansell be satisfied with a Reliant Robin?"* Of course not; yet there are many amateur radio operators - members of CDXC included - who have the most extraordinary attitude to those who succeed. We have been told, usually by somebody with a very low DXCC rating, that DXing should only be conducted using old, homebrew gear and bits of wire for antennas! Why? No doubt they derive enjoyment from operating with inferior equipment, maybe they get more fun out of gardening? They should understand that the "True Blue" DXer takes his hobby seriously and spends more money and time on it that he who has other, to him more important, interests. Any CDXC member who is the slightest bit unsure of whether he is a real DXer should read *"DX IS!"* and *"Where Do We Go Next"*!

The distressing rubbish which was pushed around the DX Cluster a few months ago demonstrated the depths to which some amateurs will stoop to criticise their fellows, undoubtedly through sheer jealousy. How can these people call themselves DXers when they are on another planet from the rest of us? For Heaven's sake let's stick together and support each other, irrespective of whether the other guy runs a 6-element Quad at 100 feet or a wire in a gro-bag on his window sill. We're all in this game to (supposedly) enjoy ourselves and nothing is to be gained from slagging each other off. There will always be the "CW is best" or "160m is the true gentlemen's band" types. They are entitled to their views but to the true-blue DXer all bands and modes are of equal significance and a true competitor doesn't allow the track conditions to have a significant effect on his performance. Adjustments may be necessary to achieve peak performance, but DX IS and whether that's at 0130z on 160m CW or at midday on 20m SSB the attitude should be the same - a clean signal (hands up all who

use a Monitor-scope), operating technique beyond reproach - and break the pile-up with the first call!

If you are one that believes that "real" DXers only use home-brew gear and wires, by all means persevere - there are many members of Honor Roll who have achieved their goals using extremely modest gear. And remember the QRP gang - people for whom I personally have nothing but admiration, and a certain degree of envy! I recall Dick Dievendorff telling me of a sweat shirt he saw at Visalia which carried the logo *"Life is too short for QRP"*. How right it was! Through sheer necessity my DXing has to be of the "5-second QSO" variety; editing the weekly DX bulletin with the shortest lead-time of any weekly bulletin in the world means that most of my spare time has to be devoted to the Word Processor and I do not have hours to spare in pile-ups. Given the choice I would love to achieve QRP Honor Roll for the sheer challenge, but life is definitely too short. Maybe in the next world..

So if you are running a modest station, don't criticise another member who has the latest technology and what to you may be a "mega-station"; his means, priorities and determination may be different to yours. Remember that extremely simple antennas which provide just the same effect as expensive commercial multi-banders may be produced from scraps so you don't have to play second fiddle all the time.

Let your DXing be fun, however you interpret the word, and have no truck with jealous spoil-sports who complain about the way you do it, provided that you operate strictly within the terms of your amateur licence and in accordance with the DXCC Rules. Encourage the non-believers by good example. Who knows, they may see the light - one day.

Lastly, members of CDXC, DO strive to maintain the highest possible standards both on and off air. Unfortunately the last few months have seen CDXC members involved in the dreadful "policing" of DXpedition TX frequencies and deliberate interference with distress communications. The former causes annoyance and frustration and shows up a bad operator; the latter is so appalling that words fail me.

Bren, G4DYO

WHY DID WE GO THERE ? *Mike Potter, G4PFF*

With apologies to OH2BH

March 1993 saw the culmination of an epoch making 25 years in planning a DXpedition that had none of you chasing, except G3PMR because he was the only one to know about it. Even Alan missed the opportunity to work us, the main reason was we only worked 2m with 1.5 watts!

Agog with indifference you must now be asking what it is all about. Having spent the last 25 years trying to convince my XYL that DX could be fun and with the anniversary to celebrate we raided the piggy bank for 2 weeks in the Caribbean.

As we would be /MM most of the time and it was doubtful that Cunard would appreciate a willing volunteer to use their gear on board a compromise of 7 days in J6 was agreed.

Some weeks before a chance QSO with 8P9CC got me the name of a local J6 to call on arrival. RSGB came up with the info that a reciprocal licence can only be obtained on personal application to the Police HQ in St Lucia, with payment of $2 US.

The visit would coincide with CQ WPX SSB, What planning ! Unfortunately, baggage allowance would not stretch to a TS440 and HF6 so settle for my Alinco DJ180 2m handheld, the plan being to convince the locals they could not do without me on their rigs. All went well except on arrival we found that the reciprocal rules had changed in 1989 and application had now to be made to a Mr. Perry Mason (NO not the one from TV unfortunately.) at the Ministry of Works Communications. After walking round various Ministries (not like Whitehall), we found Perry Mason, apologies the price has gone up to $25 EC. Getting the licence was easy, form in triplicate with carbon paper, show U.K licence and another ID, pay your money and that's it. This is all too easy thinks I and I was right.

Ah well, back to the beach to call up the locals on the handheld via the local repeater NO PROBLEMS (Local expression from experience meaning the opposite.) will call you Saturday to plan something. Great, this would be the day at the end of a pile up at last. So what happened despite all these years of planning? Well due to a screw up in LF communications. (Verbal message at Hotel reception), we missed the contest and never got near any HF gear. Best DX was FM5 via the repeater on 2m, at least I was sitting by the sea with a Banana and Rum cocktail in my hand at the time. So to borrow a phrase. WHERE DO WE GO NEXT ?

Mike G4PFF

DXpedition Lessons from Peter I & Bouvet Islands
Roald Steen AJ0N/LA6US

Few amateurs have as much experience in arranging DXpeditions to difficult locations as Kaare Pederson LA2GV, and Einar Enderud LA1EE. The two man team of Norwegian DXpeditioners were the first ones to put 3Y2, Peter I Island, on the air. Two years later, they conducted another memorable DXpedition, this time to 3Y5, Bouvet Island.

I met with Kaare and Einar in November 1990 at Einar's spacious hilltop home in an Oslo suburb. Their experiences in planning and conducting these two difficult DXpeditions can be a helpful guide to other groups of hams that may be planning DXpeditions to DXCC countries that are hard to get to.

Einar had Arctic experience from serving as manager of a satellite communications facility on the Svalbard islands north of Norway before embarking on the first DXpedition to Peter I Island. The Peter I expedition became the very first amateur radio operation from this extremely difficult to reach island.

Concern for the weather and the seasons must be part of the planning for an expedition to a remote island such as Bouvet or Peter I Island. Peter I Island is covered with fog during much of the year, so that even a helicopter may be unable to land there. In the far south, you must plan your DXpedition for the Northern winter, to avoid the severe weather that much of this part of the world experiences during the Southern winter.

Most of all, if you would like to arrange a DXpedition to a remote uninhabited island, you will need funds. For while a DXpedition to an inhabited tropical island in the Caribbean or the Pacific may not cost much more than a regular vacation, an uninhabited island is likely to lack all the infrastructure such as roads, shelters, airport, and utilities.

In common with a few other rare DX countries, Bouvet Island and Peter I Island are both completely uninhabited. Once you are dealing with an uninhabited island when planning a DXpedition, everything becomes much more expensive and complicated.

As uninhabited islands, both Bouvet Island and Peter I Island are without service by any airline. If you would like to operate from an uninhabited island like 3Y2 and 3Y5, you must arrange your own transportation, and this can be far more expensive than flying to you destination as a passenger on a commercial air line.

The Norwegian polar vessel "Aurora" transported Einar and Kaare during their Bouvet and Peter I Island expeditions. "Aurora" is equipped for polar voyages, and has a crew which is well experienced in navigating in arctic regions and in dealing with severe weather conditions.

On an uninhabited island, all of the amenities which you are used to are missing. There is no electric power. You must bring your own generator. Fuel for the generator must be brought on to the island, for you will not find a fuel dealership on an uninhabited island.

And there are other problems. You must bring your own food for the duration of the stay. You may even have to bring your own water or desalination equipment.

Landing on Bouvet Island or Peter I Island once you are there can be a challenge. There are no docks or natural harbours on either of these islands. Landing had to be achieved through helicopter transportation. But in order to be able to get off the island if the helicopter should malfunction or if visibility should become too low for safe helicopter evacuation, you must also be able to get off the island by boat or rubber raft in an emergency.

If Kaare and Einar should have been unable to leave Peter Ist Island by helicopter, they would need to use some mountain climbing techniques. For they set up their station on top of a glacier which could only be descended with the help of ropes and mountain climbing gear. Peter I Island has few sites that are suitable even for access even with a helicopter, and the glacier site turned out to be the most convenient one.

Tents were built for polar regions during the expeditions to Bouvet and Peter I Islands. These tents have special insulation between two layers of fabric to keep the cold out.

The Bouvet Island expedition was especially well equipped with radio equipment. In addition to Kaare and Einar, the operators consisted of Jin JF1IST, Willy HB9AHL, and Jacky, F2CW. The guest operators also helped in raising funds for the expedition. During the Bouvet Island expedition, the considerable inventory of radio equipment included four triband beams, three Butternut HF-6V verticals, and a W0CD Battlecreek special antenna for 40, 80, and 160 meters, and five transceivers.

Even a portable computer was included to assist in logging. Some interference between the five stations on Bouvet Islands was inevitable, since the separation between each station was

so small. By using antennas with vertical polarization at the remaining ones helped to reduce the interference.

Some rare DX countries are islands that are politically or militarily sensitive, perhaps with a host government which is not too friendly to amateur radio. (*Ed: Not just islands!)* Fortunately, the Norwegian Government is friendly to amateur radio, and does not consider these remote islands under its administration to have any strategic value. Reciprocal operating agreements exist between Norway and most countries with a large ham population.

It is even questionable if the Norwegian Government could deny anyone a permission to land on Peter I Island, since this island is so far south that it is covered by the Antarctic Treaty. The Antarctic Treaty includes guaranteed free access to the continent, regardless of nationality.

The Norewegian Government has turned Bouvet Island into a natural reservation due to its unique nature and wildlife, mostly composed of elephant seals and penguins. Therefore, it granted Einar and Kaare permission to land on the island provided that they left the island as it was when they arrived there. All garbage and equipment had to be removed as the expedition left Bouvet Island.

But they were asked to leave two artifacts. One is an automated weather station, which sends its reports through a French communications satellite system. The weather station, which is not solar powered, has batteries that are designed to last for three years. A plaque of Lars Christiensen, a Norwegian shipowner who financed the expedition which claimed Bouvet Island for Norway in 1927, was also left, mounted on a large rock near the camp.

There are not only negatives in arranging a DXpedition to a remote uninhabited island. An amateur radio operation can provide the island and the host government with a great deal of publicity. And this is the type of publicity which governments like, as ham radio is a peaceful hobby which conveys an image of advanced technology. An event which attracts publicity also tends to attract corporations that are seeking publicity. Large corporations may be persuaded that they may benefit from sponsoring a DXpedition with its image of advanced technology.

Kaare and Einar utilised these forces during their fund raising efforts for their two DXpeditions. They received funding from corporate sponsors in a number of countries. They also received contributions from the almost 1000 amateur radio operators around the world that are members of Club Bouvet.

A television crew followed the expedition to Bouvet Island and took more than seven hours of TV footage. This footage has been edited into television programmes that have appeared on European Television.

If you are planning a DXpedition to a rarely visited location, revenues from the television footage may help you to balance the books. Kaare and Einar have not put their experiences into a book, being too occupied with their professions in Norway, but a trip like this could also provide good material for a book to earn additional revenues.

It may help to be in good physical condition before you start out on a DXpedition to an uninhabited island. And last, but not least, you will need support from other amateur radio operators in the form of fund raising, QSL managers, and a support organization, according to Kaare and Einar.

NATIONAL FIELD DAY 1993 - READING AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Don Field - G3XTT

Although CDXC put on its own entry in this year's NFD (in the Restricted section), many other CDXC members were involved in CDXC with their local clubs. The Reading and District Amateur Radio Club, which has won NFD for the past two years, was the only club this year to put on three stations, one in each of the three sections of NFD (Open, Restricted and Low Power). John G3WGV and I operated the Open Section station (G3ULT/P) while CDXC member Jon G4UXG was one of the operators at the Restricted Section station.

Although there is a growing tendency towards "one-man shows" in NFD, it seems to me that the underlying concept of NFD is as a team event, and to this end success in the Open Section can only come from an effective team. While Restricted Section stations need only two 30ft antenna supports, which can easily be erected by two, or even one person, an effective Open Section effort requires plenty of aluminium in the air, which can only be achieved by getting lots of manpower on site.

At G3ULT/P our station has evolved and grown over the past four years in particular, to the point where there is now probably little scope with current technology to take it much further. This year we had two 60ft trailer-mounted Versatowers on site (one kindly loaned by Strumech), one supporting a TH5 and, at right angles to this, a multi-band dipole for 10/15/20, the other supporting a Cushcraft 40-2CD (kindly loaned by CDXC member Martin G3ZAY) under which was an 80m inverted-vee. A further, 30ft rigid mast supported a 40m dipole (kindly loaned by another CDXC member, David, G3OUF), while scaffold poles supported dipoles at 60ft for 160 and 80. We have been using an FT-1000 for the past three years, ever since I refused to operate NFD again with G3WGV's FT-980 (sorry John!). We take band data from the FT-1000 to switch antennas automatically and to change the band on the logging computer (though we can manually select main or secondary antenna on each band - 160m is the only band on which we have only one antenna available). The station is run via an Uninterruptable Power Supply to keep us going for a while if the generator fails (and a second generator is always on site as a standby).

Planning for NFD starts a week or so after the previous year's NFD, when we get the various participants together to analayse what went right and what went wrong, and make a note of any lessons to be learned. As the year goes by our strategy develops and there was considerable discussion this past year as to how many stations we could put on without spreading the support too thinly. In the event it turned out we cut things rather close - although perhaps 30 club members were on site at one or other of the stations at some stage over the contest weekend, there was a long period on the Saturday when we had only four people building the Open Section station. Perhaps complacency is setting in, but we were still building the station and sorting out bugs five minutes before the contest started, despite having been on site the previous evening and installed the antennas on the two Versatowers.

Planning for NFD is very much a case of planning for all eventualities. I had never operated NFD until four years ago (no one had ever asked me ...), but it quickly became clear that this was a contest like no other. It is not a rate contest - 1000 or so QSOs in 24 hours is no great shakes nowadays. Neither is it a multiplier contest. And, very definitely, it is not a DX contest. The double points for /P stations, and double again for 160 and 10 metre QSOs, point you very strongly towards working European portables (plenty of them, now that most IARU Region countries have co-ordinated their NFD dates), especially on topband and ten. When you then bear in mind that the contest is in June, with a strong likelihood of Sporadic E on 10 (which can happen for very brief periods and with no warning) and that the night is relatively short, giving a limited period for useful topband working, a successful strategy begins to jump out at you. The antenna system must cater for high-angle working (though it is necessary to be able to run W's as well if propagation is suitable), and rapid band-changing is essential in order to check for short openings, especially on ten, perhaps only working two or three QSOs on each visit to the band. We have found that moving from a low lying site to the Club's regular VHF NFD hilltop site has helped on ten with working the UK portables - ten metres can then be treated very much as a line-of-sight VHF band.

The unpredictability of summer propagation requires that you be able to adapt rapidly to what you find on the day. In 1991, there was extensive Sporadic E on ten, so much so that I was able to work into VE around midnight! In 1992 a solar flare had knocked out the high bands, but we still managed a good rate in the first hour on ten, working UK portables VHF-style. Sporadic E showed up later, and ten proved to be by far our best band. This year a solar disturbance knocked out the high bands, but Sporadic E was largely absent (despite being very much in evidence almost every day the preceding week - Murphy at work again!). So 40m carried the bulk of our QSOs, and the 40m beam turned out to be useful in knocking off a significant number of North American QSOs as well as ZS6EZ, a VK, and YN/SM0OIG.

Of course, life is never plain sailing. This was the first time since adopting computer logging that we had no back-up computer on site so (I suppose it was inevitable) five hours into the contest the PC died; apparently a fault with the hard disc controller. Fortunately we were able to back up onto floppy before it gave up the ghost completely, but I was left keying and logging manually (good heavens!) for about two hours, while G6IZA raced back to Reading for a spare PC (fortunately his Vauxhall Senator is an ex-police car and still looks the part!). This is where having plenty of bodies on site is essential - if there had been only two of us we would probably have lost any chance of a third win at that point. As it was, we were able to return to computer logging without missing a beat. Why is computer logging so crucial? Well, principally because the instant "check partial" ability enables very rapid search and pounce operation later in the contest as rates start to drop.

John and I adopt a routine of four hours operating, four hours off, and there is lots of internal competition between us to achieve the highest rates (so far it has always been the one who has the first four hour slot who ends up with the maximum QSOs). Our back-up team prepares food, tops up the generator, and is there to sort out any problems which arise. As in so many many competitive sports, often only a few percentage points separates the winner and the runners up, so it is essential to do everything possible to maximise QSOs. This is where a highly integrated station (allowing almost instant bandchanging, etc) and a range of antennas (high-angle, low-angle) can make all the difference. Crucially, as well, many of us have had the experience in contests of establishing a high rate, and then seeing it drop when a less

experienced operator takes over. In the Reading Club we have catered for up-and-coming operators by encouraging them to operate our Restricted Section station. In due course, when their capabilities equal or exceed those of John or I, we will willingly step aside to make way. This, we hope, is a recipe which will ensure that Reading's success in NFD is no 5-minute wonder. At the same time, winning NFD has certainly been an incentive to many Club members to get involved in the event in one way or another, and for not a few to brush up their CW. Hopefully at least some of the novice licencees who manned our Low-Power station this year will be operating the all singing all-dancing RADARC Open Section station in years to come when John and I are eavesdropping on the bands from a nearby old-folks home. See you in NFD next year?

Just for the record, as I write this we have yet to complete checking of the logs before submission, but our QSO breakdown looks to be as follows: 160m - 173; 80m - 230; 40m - 278; 20m - 222; 15m - 89; 10m - 102.

AMATEUR SSB (a potted history) *Ron Glaisher, G6LX*

It seems that some of you appreciated the reminiscence about the early days of amateur SSB that was in the May newsletter. I have had a number of comments and questions about the development of SSB and how it was first used on the amateur bands. It may come as a surprise, but the Single-Sideband system is nearly 80 years old, being first developed by Bell Telephone in 1914, albeit for long-distance wire telephony.

The first use of SSB for radio communication, was also by Bell, aided and abetted by the British GPO who experimented with the system over a long-wave transatlantic telephone link during the early 1920's. These experiments resulted in a two-way commercial circuit between the USA and the UK using a frequency of 57 kHz which went into service in 1927. Although it provided a highly reliable transatlantic telephone link, being relatively unaffected by propagation, it was eventually put on stand-by as more channels were needed which were not available on the Long Wave band.

While SSB had proved itself for Low Frequency operation, the problem of using the system on the higher frequencies was confounded by the need to have oscillators having a level of long-term stability that was not achievable at that time.. For this reason the expanded transatlantic circuits were operated on HF using amplitude modulation and very sophisticated rhombic antenna systems. (Does anyone remember the mile-long series of MUSA's located at Baldock ?). The oscillator problem remained a limiting factor to the development of a true suppressed carrier SSB system for commercial use. To overcome the stability difficulty, Bell developed a system which allowed the receiving station to lock on to a pilot carrier that was transmitted together with one sideband, a system that is still in use for some commercial services.

The publicity about the Bell system, triggered off some amateur interest and in 1934, W6DEI, writing in R9 magazine described a multistage filter transmitter which transmitted a single-sideband suppressed carrier signal. Although there was considerable interest from a technical standpoint, it was not a success operationally as only a very few were able to demodulate the SSB because of receiver stability. At the same time as the W6DEI experiments, an ARRL

technical team led by James Lamb developed various circuits and filters for HF SSB. Lamb built and tested a number of transmitters and developed the circuits for the first SSB transceiver (he called it a Duplexer). ARRL decided that SSB was too complex for the average amateur and much of Lamb's work was never published.

It was not until after the war, that there was further developments in the amateur use of SSB. A team at Stanford University led by Villard, W6QYT, had been experimenting with RF phasing techniques and Villard developed a SSB generator which used separate AF and RF phase-shift networks to eliminate the carrier and one sideband. In late 1947, a transmitter was built and operated on 14MHz using the Stanford club call W6YX. With the improved stability available from post-war receivers, many amateurs were able to demodulate the SSB using the receiver BFO to replace the carrier.. One of those hearing the W6YX signals was W0TQK, Arthur Nichols, who built a filter transmitter in only five days and made the first ever true SSB to SSB QSO with W6YX.

Arthur Nichols described his filter transmitter in QST January 1948, and Villard gave details of the Stanford tests in the same issue. Transatlantic QSO's took place in 1949 and amongst those who worked W6YX and W0TQK were G2IG, G2NH, G5UX and your scribe. Within a few years, world-wide QSO's on SSB were commonplace and CQ Magazine were awarding their version of a DXCC certificate for 100 countries worked on two-way SSB. (ARRL were not prepared to separate SSB from AM, counting both modes as telephony for DXCC). The first CQ SSB certificate was awarded in 1952. In these early days, there was a battle between those that used Phasing and those that preferred the Filter method for the generation of SSB signals. Initially the phasing method was favoured as it was relatively easy to home brew a suitable exciter using simple audio and RF phase-shift networks. While some managed to construct suitable low-frequency filters to eliminate the unwanted sideband, it was not until G2NH, of the Quartz Crystal Company, developed a simple crystal filter exciter which was also easy to construct and get going that the filter exciter/transmitter became popular amongst UK stations.and for those who preferred to buy, KW Electronics offered the first multiband SSB transmitter based on the G2NH filter circuits. In the USA, Barker and Williamson, Central Electronics, GE and RCA, offered amateur equipment using outphasing, while Collins and Eldico used the filter method in their amateur gear, Collins finally scooped the pool by introducing a complete range of transmitters, receivers and transceivers for the amateur market using a new type of mechanical filter that gave superior results to the earlier crystal units.

These multiband units developed and marketed some thirty years ago are of course the basis of today's highly developed black boxes !

Ron Glaisher

APOLOGY

In the Editorial in the May issue of the Newsletter, there was a remark relating to a letter I received some time ago. Since the publication of the last Newsletter, the author of the letter protested that it was quoted out of context. He feels it was directed at one particular subject and not a broad selection and I therefore apologise for the use of this piece in May's article.

Andrew G0HSD

CHANGE OF RUSSIAN RADIO ORGANISATION

The Union of Radio amateurs of Russia (URR) was organised in April 1992 and was officially registered in April 1993 with the Ministry of Justice in Russia and the Government of Russia as a national organisation.

Larry Agabekov UA6HZ was elected as President of URR, Andy Malanyin UA3DPX as Chaiman of the HF Committee. Now the URR is preparing all the documents to become a member of IARU.

The URR has been established to serve radio amateurs by radio amateurs instead of the Central Radio Club who are run and monitored by the military. There have been a number of significant problems with the CRC including a very high price for QSLing.

The URR will eventually start its own bureau and it is expected to replace the dying Box 88 soon. British hams are reminded that this will only serve Russia and not the other republics. At the moment Box 88 throw away all cards that are not Russian so you are advised not to send to Box 88 in the future. It is hoped that the other republics will, in time, set up their own services.

The address of the URR is:

P0 Box 59, Moscow. 105122 Russia.

Tel: 095 166 1577
Fax: 095 166 1570

Harry Booklan, RA3AUU
HF Committee Member, URR

CDXC ACCOUNTS 1992/93

The accounts for the 1992/93 year will be published in the September Newsletter, as there was insufficient space in this issue.

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

I will be pleased to receive items for publication in the newsletter at any time - no need to wait for the deadline! I prefer input on PC floppy (any size/capacity), but will also be pleased to receive type written submissions. Items on floppy should preferably be in Word for Windows format (I have just upgraded to V2), but I can also read ASCII, Wordperfect, Framemaker and MS Word (DOS version).

Alan, G3PMR

MINUTES OF THE CDXC ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING

The 1993 ARM was held at the QTH of John Linford, G3WGV, on May 22nd.

The meeting was attended by 17 members: G0LMX, G3AEZ, G3COJ, G3KMA, G3PJT, G3PMR, G3SXW, G3TXF, G3USX, G3WGV, G3XMZ, G3XTT, G3YBT, G3ZAY, G4PFF, G4WVX and G6LX

Apologies for absence were received from G0HSD, G0HXN, G3NOF, G3NUG, G3OZF, G3SJX, G3SWH, G3VKW, G4DYO, G4LJF, and G4MUT

Minutes of the previous ARM: G6LX proposed that the minutes of the previous ARM as they appeared in the July 1992 issue of the CDXC News Letter be accepted. Seconded by G3XTT. The proposal was approved.

Chairman's Report: John, G3WGV, reflected on some of the significant happenings of the year. Membership had increased substantially, reaching 150 for the first time. The role of the club is seen by John as being very much an enabling one, in terms of DXpeditions, and CDXC had made substantial contributions to some major expeditions over the year. The club name debate had been resolved, with the addition of the words "The UK DX Foundation" to the logo, which enabled the existing name to be retained, whilst indicating the national nature of the club. The newsletter had been expanded, and advertising included,as an additional revenue generator. A Bulletin had also been introduced, to give additional feedback to members in between News Letters. John finished by saying that he'd enjoyed his year as Chairman, although, to some extent, it had been something of a holding exercise.

Secretary's Report: Alan, G3PMR, reviewed some of the activities of the year. Membership had increased to 150, with 35 new members joining, and 9 members not renewing their membership, giving a net gain of 26. The loss of 9 compared favourably with a loss of 30 in the previous year. Two social events had been held during the year, a barbecue at the QTH of G4BLX/G4MCD, and a very successful and well attended dinner. The operation of GB1OTA had been a great success, as had our attendance at the RSGB International HF and IOTA Convention. CDXC had also been represented at NEC, thanks to G3OUF, who had allowed us to use the RSGB HF Committee stand. Alan made a plea to all for feedback to be made from the membership to the committee, via the new secretary.

Treasurer's Report: Ron, G6LX reported a healthy financial position. The cash in hand position had increased by £300 in spite of £750 being donated to various DXpeditions. This was largely due to sales of logging software (thanks to G3WGV/G3PMR), and the influx of new members. In addition, there had been a number of donations, and Ron thanked all who had contributed. Ron also thanked Bren, G4DYO, and his XYL Ruth, for the efficient way in which they had distributed the News Letter and Bulletin.

The accounts were proposed as accepted by G3ZAY, seconded by G4PFF. There were no objections.

Election of New Committee: G3PMR presided over election of officers for the 1993-94 year. The outcome was as follows:

Chairman: John, G3WGV	Proposed by G3PMR, seconded by G3XMZ, elected unanimously.
Secretary: Dave, G0HXN	Proposed by G3PMR, seconded by G4PFF, elected unanimously
Treasurer: Mike, G4PFF	Proposed by G6LX, seconded by G3ZAY, elected unanimously.
President: Ron, G6LX	Proposed by G3WGV, seconded by G3ZAY, elected unanimously.
Vice President: Keith, G3VKW	Proposed by G3WGV, seconded by G6LX, elected unanimously.
News Letter Editor: Alan, G3PMR	Proposed by G3WGV, seconded by G3XTT, elected unanimously.

The constitution allows for the co-option of up to two additional members on to the Committee. **Neville, G3NUG**, was co-opted as an additional **Vice President,** proposed by G3ZAY, seconded by G3XTT, with specific responsibilities for shows/exhibitions.

A vote of thanks was given to the out going committee members, Martin G3ZAY, and Andrew, G0HSD, and also to John, G3AEZ, who stood down as auditor. The position of auditor is still open; it will be left to the Committee to make this appointment.

G3WGV then resumed his duties as Chairman for the duration of the meeting.

G3KMA expressed concern over the level of work load in organising the HF Convention. G3PJT said that better task definition will allow delegation of tasks to spread the load. A number of members volunteered to help with the collection of overseas visitors from the airport. These were G0LMX, G3USX, G3YBT, G4WVX, G4XMZ, and others.

G3XTT proposed that the club should be looking at additional sources of income. G3PMR warned that income from G3WGV's contest log software may well drop in the coming year, in the face of growing competition from EI5DI's Super-Duper. G3AEZ suggested marketing a product of some sort to raise funds. A guide to DX operating was suggested, with a coordinating editor, which will help with publicity as well as raising funds. The Committee will take this on as a task.

G3AEZ raised the Packet/Cluster SHOW/GO command. G3WGV gave a brief explanation of this, which he will write up for the next News Letter.

FOR SALE

I have a copy of Word For Windows, V1.1a for sale @ £40.00. It is on 3.5" original floppies, with complete documentation, all in excellent condition. I also have a copy of DRDOS 6 (un-opened), complete with disk compression software (claimed to double your disk size!) for £25.00. ***Alan, G3PMR***

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